

Northeast Lakeview College LRC

Resource Guide – Citing Sources

www.accd.edu/nlc/library

Why should I cite my sources?

Any time you use words or ideas created by someone else without giving proper credit to the creator, you are committing **plagiarism**, a very serious academic offense. By not citing the proper source, you are leading the reader to believe that the words or ideas are your original work. To protect copyright and give credit where credit is due, you must state where the words or ideas came from. This is typically done via both **in-text citations** and a list of **References or Works Cited** at the end of your paper. To avoid committing plagiarism, you must give proper credit when you use:

- Another person's idea, opinion, or theory
- Any information which is not common knowledge
- A direct quotation from another person, either written or spoken
- A paraphrase of another person's spoken or written word

Common Citation Formats

Consult with your instructor as to which style format he or she would like you to use. Some of the common formats and their official websites include:

- **MLA** (Modern Language Association) - <http://www.mla.org/style>
- **APA** (American Psychological Association) - <http://apastyle.apa.org/>
- **Chicago** (University of Chicago Press) - <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>
- **ASA** (American Sociological Association) style guide from California State University <http://www.calstatela.edu/library/bi/rsalina/asa.styleguide.html>

Style Handbooks

The library has several style manuals which you can borrow for in-library use only. The manuals contain the most authoritative instructions for creating your citations, along with examples. They are located in the **Reference** and **Ready-Reference** section, behind the reference desk. Just ask us if you'd like to consult one of these guides!

- [*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*](#): LB2369 .G53 2003b
- [*MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing*](#): PN147 .G444 1998
- [*Concise Rules of APA Style*](#): BF76.7 .C66 2005
- [*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*](#): BF76.7 .P83 2001
- [*The Chicago Manual of Style*](#): Z253 .U69 2003
- [*The Columbia Guide to Online Style*](#): PN171 .F56 W35 2006

Examples

MLA Format – Works Cited

Printed Book

Dickerson, James. Yellow Fever: A Deadly Disease Poised to Kill Again. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2006.

Electronic Book

Roffey, Sue. Helping with Behaviour: Establishing the Positive and Addressing the Difficult in the Early Years. New York: Routledge, 2006. NetLibrary. Northeast Lakeview Coll., Universal City, TX. 19 March 2009 <<http://www.netlibrary.com>>.

Journal Article from Online Database

Ferrero, David J. "Having It All". Educational Leadership 63.8 (2006): 8-14. ERIC. EBSCOHost. Northeast Lakeview Coll., Universal City, TX. 25 February 2009. <<http://search.ebscohost.com>>.

Website

Academy of American Poets. Poets.org. 2007. 30 April 2007 <<http://www.poets.org>>.

APA Format – Reference List

Printed Book

Dickerson, J. (2006). *Yellow fever: A deadly disease poised to kill again*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books.

Electronic Book

Roffey, S. (2006). *Helping with behaviour: Establishing the positive and addressing the difficult in the early years*. New York: Routledge. Retrieved April 30, 2007 from NetLibrary database.

Journal Article from Online Database

Ferrero, D. (2006). Having It All. *Educational Leadership*, 68(8), 8-14. Retrieved April 30, 2007 from the ERIC EBSCOHost database.

Website

Academy of American Poets. (2007). *Poets.org*. Retrieved April 30, 2007 from <http://www.poets.org>

Citation Help from Databases

Some databases will actually help you create the citation for your list of references. However, it is always best to check the citation for accuracy by referring to the appropriate official style guide.

EBSCO






After clicking on any result title, click on the **Cite** icon near the top of the page. Citations will display in several different formats, and can be copied and pasted into other programs.

Citation Format ✕

NOTE: Review the instructions at [EBSCO Support Site](#) and make any necessary corrections before using. Pay special attention to personal names, capitalization, and dates. Always consult your library resources for the exact formatting and punctuation guidelines.

<p>AMA (American Medical Assoc.)</p>	<p>Reference List Supreme Court Rules Against D.C. Gun-control Law. <i>New American (08856540)</i> [serial online]. July 21, 2008;24(15):8-8. Available from: Academic Search Complete, Ipswich, MA. Accessed August 5, 2008.</p>
<p>APA (American Psychological Assoc.)</p>	<p>References Supreme Court Rules Against D.C. Gun-control Law. (2008, July 21). <i>New American (08856540)</i>, Retrieved August 5, 2008, from Academic Search Complete database.</p>

Alternatively, click on the **Email** icon  to email the citation and article (if available) to yourself in a particular format. You can also use the **Save** icon  to save this information to a disk. The **Export** icon  will allow you to save citations to a file formatted for EndNote, ProCite, RefWorks, and other bibliographic tools.

Many other databases offer similar functionality, often by clicking on a link to Print, Email, or Save your result. Just ask a librarian if you need help determining whether a particular database can create citations for you.

Websites for Further Help

- The OWL at Purdue MLA Formatting and Style Guide:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/> (Scroll down to the bottom for information about In-Text citations and Works Cited)
- The Writing Center at University of Wisconsin-Madison – MLA Documentation:
<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocMLA.html>
- The OWL at Purdue APA Formatting and Style Guide:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> (Scroll down to the bottom for information about In-Text citations and Reference List)
- The Writing Center at University of Wisconsin-Madison – APA Documentation:
<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocAPA.html>
- The OWL at Purdue ASA Formatting and Style Guide:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/01/>

See our list of other free helpful websites at:
http://www.accd.edu/nlc/library/t_links.html#citingsources